SUBJECT No. 79.

Free grant of timber license.

Mr. B. Kesaviah, Chikmagalur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—For granting timber licenses, distinction must not be made between coffee lands purchased for upset price and those that have continued under *hiduvali* prior to the introduction of the upset price system.

The mover added that many of the trees for which they were asked to pay the price were planted by the holders of estates.

Reply of Government.—Will be referred to Deputy Commissioner for report.

SUBJECT No. 80.

Grazing in Amrit Mahal kavals.

Mr. Gundappa, Magadi taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Though the grazing of the cattle of private persons in portions of Amrit Mahal kavals on payment of certain prescribed fees is permitted, the watchmen of the department cause great inconvenience to the public by preventing private cattle from grazing on the plea that Amrit Mahal cattle are grazing in the kaval. The cattle will suffer unless they are allowed to graze much earlier. The portions meant for private cattle should be separated from those intended for the Amrit Mahal cattle. This may be enquired into and undue interference prevented.

The member referred to the Sankighatta and Gadikere kavals in the Magadi taluk. The Amrit Mahal Superintendent promised to afford greater conveniences to the people of the localities for grazing.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 81.

Joint *Khates*.

Mr. H. Venkatasubbiah, Krishnarajpete taluk.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that in the case of Joint *Khates* when one of the *khatedars* dies, his heir's name may be entered in place of the deceased *khatedar*.

Reply of Government.—Government have finally intimated their decision that this is not possible.

SUBJECT No. 82.

The *Kanas*.

Mr. M. S. Ramachar, Kolar municipality.

Summary of discussion.—*Siddharti Chitta* records the *bona fide* rights of the villagers to store their fodder and to grow some greens on the *kana*. The lands originally belonged to Government, but were granted to the raiyats like other petty concessions in consideration of gratuitous services required of them. Now the tendency of the Revenue Officers is to assess them and to evict the raiyats from them. This is a hardship.

The mover added that in some cases lands that were being freely enjoyed for communal purposes had been assessed as Government land.

The representation referred chiefly to the Kolar District and the Deputy Commissioner said that the local officers were now exercising their discretion judiciously in the matter.

Reply of Government.— Specific cases may be brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner who has promised to show all reasonable concessions in the matter.

SUBJECT No. 83.

Interest on takavi loans.

Mr. M. S. Ramachar, Kolar municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The Government pays less than 4 per cent on Savings Bank Deposits and on the funds deposited for charitable purposes, but Government charge more than 6 per cent on takavi loans advanced by them. It is prayed that the rate of interest on takavi loans may be reduced to 4 per cent.

Reply of Government.— The present rates are very favourable and cannot be reduced.

FORESTS.

(*Nos. 84—94.*)

SUBJECT No. 84.

State Forest in the malnad.

Mr. C. Vamana Rao, Nagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.—*Soppinabettas, gomal* lands and District Forests which were assigned in the interest of the malnad raiyat population have been included in the State Forests. Coupes are not convenient to the people. It is therefore requested that the question of State Forests may be reconsidered. These forests are brought too near inhabited villages with the result that it has led to much illness in the villages and caused much inconvenience to the villagers. The boundary of State Forests should be at least half a mile distant from an inhabited village. The member specially referred to the Devangundi and Basavankote forests.

Reply of Government.—The special cases referred to may be brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner, who will take necessary action. The question of fixing a limit as regards the boundaries of State Forests with reference to inhabited areas will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 85.

Sale of timber trees.

Mr. M. Subba Rao, Heggaddevankote taluk.

Summary of discussion.—By selling timber trees wholesale in coupes, there is room not only for stealthy removal of a great many trees but also for indiscriminate cutting. As timber is sold at reduced rates to wholesale purchasers by the Forest Department, there is the likelihood of the forest becoming denuded very soon and that the rainfall might thereby be diminished. It is therefore prayed that the exploitation of timber be undertaken departmentally. Though it is stated that only trees that are previously marked are felled, in practice this is neglected and the contractor is allowed to cut any trees he likes.

Mr. Mahomed Abbas Khan.—Departmental felling should altogether be stopped.

Reply of Government.—Noted.